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In re Application of:
Bates et al.

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**For: Systems and Methods for
Operating Vending Machines**

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RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED MARCH 5, 2004

In response to the Office Action dated March 5, 2004, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on June 5, 2004, please enter this response and reconsider the claims pending in the application for reasons discussed below. While no fees are believed due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge counsel's Deposit Account No. 09-0465 for any fees, including extension of time fees or excess claim fees, required to make this response timely and acceptable to the Office.

The Claims are listed beginning on page 2 of this paper. Remarks/Arguments begin on page 8 of this paper.

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